

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for risk assessment and management, comprising the steps of:

- (1) generating one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals from one or more blank master assessment templates;
- (2) populating the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with discipline-specific questions;
- (3) generating one or more site-specific assessment files from the one or more populated discipline-specific master assessment manuals, each of the one or more site-specific assessment files being a subset of one or more of the discipline-specific questions;
- (4) performing an assessment of a site using the one or more site-specific assessment files, the site-specific assessment files being configured to interactively prompt a user to (i) answer questions or (ii) perform one or more tasks; and
- (5) generating an assessment report.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step of generating one or more computer file copies of the one or more blank master assessment templates.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more blank master assessment templates are generated by information technology (IT) professionals.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step of generating one or more blank master audit manuals directed to taking a snapshot of an entity's condition.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (1) comprises the step steps of:

~~(a) generating one or more interactive assessment manuals directed to ongoing risk maintenance; and~~

(b) generating one or more blank master audit manuals directed to taking a snapshot of an entity's condition.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein discipline-specific questions in step (2) comprise one or more of risk assessment and management questions, procedures, links, comments, and other information useful for risk assessment and management.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the population of said one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals are performed by one or

more chief consultants having expertise in a specific discipline, wherein the one or more chief consultants populate the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with questions that are structured to identify issues and assess compliance with statutes, rules, regulations, best practices, and other duties of care relevant to the specific discipline.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with health and safety questions to generate a health and safety master assessment manual.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, wherein the population of said health and safety master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in the discipline of health and safety, said one or more chief consultants including environmental health consultants.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with food safety questions to generate a food safety master assessment manual.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the population of said food safety master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in food safety, said one or more chief consultants including environmental health consultants.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with occupational health questions to generate an occupational health master assessment manual.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 13, wherein the population of said occupational health master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in occupational health, said one or more chief consultants including medical officers.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with occupational hygiene questions to generate an occupational hygiene master assessment manual.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 15, wherein the population of said occupational hygiene master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in occupational hygiene, said one or more chief consultants including environmental scientists.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with water safety questions to generate a water safety master assessment manual.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 17, wherein the population of said water safety master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in the discipline of water safety, said one or more chief consultants including environmental scientists.

19. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with asbestos safety questions to generate an asbestos safety master assessment manual.

20. (Original) The method according to claim 19, wherein the population of said asbestos safety master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in the discipline of asbestos safety, said one or more chief consultants including environmental scientists.

21. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with resource conservation questions to generate a resource conservation master assessment manual.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the population of said resource conservation master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in the discipline of resource conservation, said one or more chief consultants including environmental scientists.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein said resource conservation questions comprise one or more of water conservation questions, electrical energy conservation questions, and natural gas conservation questions.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with food preparation questions to generate a food preparation master assessment manual.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 24, wherein the population of said food preparation master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in food preparation safety, said one or more chief consultants including environmental health consultants.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one of the one or more discipline-specific master assessment manuals with fire safety questions to generate a fire safety master assessment manual.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 26, wherein the population of said fire safety master assessment manual is performed by one or more chief consultants having expertise in fire safety, said one or more chief consultants including environmental health consultants.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step (2) comprises the step of populating one or more blank master audit manuals directed to taking a snapshot of an entity's condition with discipline-specific questions, wherein the discipline-specific questions are tailored for audit assessments.

30. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (3) comprises the step of selecting site-specific questions from the one or more populated discipline-specific master assessment manuals to generate one or more site-specific assessment files.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein said one or more site-specific assessment files are site-specific audit assessment files comprising discipline-specific questions tailored for audit assessment.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (3) comprises the step of selecting site-specific questions from the one or more populated discipline-specific master assessment manuals to generate one or more site-specific assessment files, wherein a site-specific assessment file includes questions from more than one populated discipline-specific master assessment manual.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein step (4) comprises the step of performing an audit assessment of a site using one or more site-specific audit assessment files.

36. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

~~(6)~~(5) performing steps (1) and (2) on a central computer system;

~~(7)~~(6) performing step (3) on a remote computer system;

~~(8)~~(7) entering results from step (4) on the remote computer system; and

~~(9)~~(8) uploading the results from step (4) from the remote computer system to the central computer system.

37. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

~~(6)~~(5) performing steps (1) through (3) on a central computer system;

~~(7)~~(6) entering results from step (4) on a remote computer system; and

~~(8)~~(7) uploading the results from step (4) from the remote computer system to the central computer system.

38. (Currently Amended) A method of assessing and managing risk for one or more clients, comprising the steps of:

- (1) generating for each of the one or more clients, one or more discipline-specific master risk assessment manuals from one or more blank master assessment templates;
- (2) populating the one or more discipline-specific master risk assessment manuals with discipline-specific questions;
- (3) generating one or more site-specific risk assessment files from the one or more populated discipline-specific master risk assessment manuals, each of the one or more site-specific risk assessment files being a subset of one or more of the discipline-specific questions, the site-specific assessment files being configured to interactively prompt a user to (i) answer questions or (ii) perform one or more tasks;
- (4) performing initial risk assessments for each of the one or more clients using the one or more site-specific risk assessment files; and
- (5) generating an assessment report.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 38 ~~39~~, further comprising the steps of:

(6) ~~(9)~~ training the one or more clients on use and revision of the one or more site-specific assessment files; and

(7) ~~(10)~~ performing follow-up risk assessment of the one or more clients.

41. (Original) The method according to claim 40, further comprising the step of periodically performing audits for each of the one or more clients.

42. (Currently Amended) A method for risk assessment and management, comprising the steps of:

(1) ~~(6)~~ generating blank master interactive assessment and audit templates;

(2) ~~(7)~~ generating a master interactive assessment manual from the blank master interactive assessment template, the master interactive assessment manual being populated with discipline-specific questions;

(3) ~~(8)~~ generating a master audit manual from the blank master audit template;

wherein said master interactive assessment manual and said master audit manual are used as a guide for auditing and assessing businesses and other entities for one or more areas of risk management based on standards of care that arise from statutes, rules, and regulations promulgated by government and regulatory organizations; and

(4) generating interactive site-specific assessment files from the master interactive assessment manual, each of the interactive site-specific assessment files being a subset of one or more of the discipline-specific questions, the site-specific assessment

files being configured to interactively prompt a user to (i) answer questions or (ii) perform one or more tasks.

43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 42, further comprising the steps of:

- ~~(5)~~ (4) generating site-specific audit files from the master audit manual;
- ~~(6)~~ (5) auditing a site using the site-specific audit files;
- ~~(7)~~ (6) performing an initial audit of the site using the interactive site specific assessment files; and
- ~~(8)~~ (7) generating a site-specific interactive manual from the initial audit and from the interactive site specific assessment files, wherein the site-specific interactive manual includes instructions for reducing risks identified during the initial audit, and wherein the site-specific interactive manual includes instructions to periodically perform one or more risk management functions.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, further comprising the step of training a site client to perform in accordance with the site-specific interactive manual.

45. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said one or more areas of risk management include health and safety, food safety, water safety, asbestos safety, fire safety, occupational health, resource conservation, and occupational hygiene.

46. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the blank master interactive assessment template is generated by one or more information technology (IT) professionals.

47. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the master interactive assessment manual is populated with risk management questions, procedures, links, comments, and other information useful for risk assessment and management.

48. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein the master interactive assessment manual is populated with discipline-specific risk management questions, wherein the disciplines for the discipline specific risk management questions include questions from one or more of health and safety discipline, food safety discipline, occupational health discipline, occupational hygiene discipline, water safety discipline, asbestos safety discipline, resources conservation discipline, food preparation discipline, and fire safety discipline.

49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein one or more chief consultants having expertise in a specific discipline populates the master interactive assessment manual with discipline-specific risk management questions, wherein the discipline-specific risk management questions are structured to identify issues and to assess compliance with statutes, rules, regulations, best practices, and duties of care relevant to the specific discipline.

50. (Original) The method of claim 49, wherein one or more chief consultants include environmental scientists who have technical expertise in a discipline and medical officers who have medical expertise in a discipline.

51. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein a site-specific assessment file for a single discipline is generated from the master interactive assessment manual.

52. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein a site-specific assessment file for multiple disciplines is generated from the master interactive assessment manual.

Claims 53-72. (Cancelled)